NATIONAL SECURITY PROJECT



May 6, 2015

By ECF

Honorable T. S. Ellis, III United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse 401 Courthouse Square Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Wikimedia Foundation et al. v. National Security Agency et al.

Case No. 15-cv-00662-TSE (D. Md.)

Dear Judge Ellis:

Pursuant to District of Maryland Local Rule 101.1(b)(i), Plaintiffs in the above-referenced case respectfully request that local counsel, Deborah Jeon and David Rocah, be excused from attending the status conference scheduled for May 13, 2015, due to a preexisting commitment. Patrick Toomey and Jameel Jaffer, counsel for Plaintiffs who have been admitted pro hac vice in this matter, intend to appear at the status conference on behalf of Plaintiffs.

Local Rule 101.1(b)(i) requires that "Any party represented by an attorney who has been admitted pro hac vice must also be represented by an attorney who has been formally admitted to the Bar of this Court who shall sign all documents and, unless excused by the presiding judge, be present at any court proceedings." Ms. Jeon and Mr. Rocah are scheduled to attend an all-day organizational meeting on May 13, 2015. They respectfully request that the Court waive the local rule's requirement for the upcoming status conference in light of this scheduling conflict and the fact that lead counsel for Plaintiffs will be present at the conference.

Defendants have informed Plaintiffs that they consent to this request.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

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